

Jimmy Carter, 1979

the President's commitment to increased U.S. trade and investment in both Egypt and Israel.

The group will include Members of Congress and representatives of U.S. agencies, as well as industry and labor leaders. They will leave Washington for Cairo on April 16 and will spend April 17 and 18 in Egypt and April 19 and 20 in Israel.

## Taiwan Relations Act

*Statement on Signing H.R. 2479 Into Law.  
April 10, 1979*

I am today signing into law H.R. 2479, the Taiwan Relations Act. This legislation will enable the American people and the people on Taiwan to maintain commercial, cultural, and other relations without official Government representation and without diplomatic relations.

The act contains all of the authority that I requested in order to enable us to maintain such unofficial relations with the people on Taiwan. It authorizes the American Institute in Taiwan, a non-governmental entity incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, to conduct these relations. Similarly, the people on Taiwan will conduct relations through a nongovernmental organization, the Coordination Council for North American Affairs.

The act is consistent with the understandings we reached in normalizing relations with the Government of the People's Republic of China. It reflects our recognition of that Government as the sole legal government of China. Having normalized relations with China in the spirit of the Shanghai communique, I look forward in the coming years to a deepening

*Administration of Jimmy Carter, 1979*

ing and broadening of U.S.-China relations which will contribute to the welfare of our two peoples and to peace in the world.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Congress for the speed and diligence with which it has acted. I believe a different treatment of the issue of diplomatic properties belonging to China would have been preferable, and my action today is without prejudice to any subsequent adjudication of the legal status of these properties. In most respects, however, the Congress and the executive branch have cooperated effectively in this matter.

In a number of sections of this legislation, the Congress has wisely granted discretion to the President. In all instances, I will exercise that discretion in a manner consistent with our interest, in the well-being of the people on Taiwan, and with the understandings we reached on the normalization of relations with the People's Republic of China, as expressed in our joint communique of January 1, 1979, on Establishment of Diplomatic Relations.

NOTE: As enacted, H.R. 2479 is Public Law 96-8, approved April 10.

## National Architectural Barrier Awareness Week, 1979

*Proclamation 4656. April 10, 1979*

*By the President of the United States  
of America*

### A Proclamation

Architectural and other barriers often keep millions of Americans from participating in and contributing to our society.

These barriers sizes—from a sizeable bus to an captioned news

These physical barriers deny daily America's elders to jobs, and public service contribute to the

Physical access whether people freedoms and abilities. Most of granted. However, disabled elderly can

The first Federal Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 law, Congress 502 of the Rehabilitation the Architectural Barriers Compliance

The Board has prevent environmental country. By doing disabled persons ities that their ta helps inform Federal facilities must be United States do build, alter or lease

The Board has media campaign slogan, "Access it will launch a section on barriers for let try and education veying more than and funded facilities regions to assess law.

A number of taken important riers. The Veterans